Old Court House
(Now used as City Hall)
Painesville
Lake County
Ohio

Owner (or Custodian) City Hall

Date of Erection Built about 1852

Architect George Mugate

Builder Harvey Woodworth

Present Condition In good condition

Number of Stories Two story

Materials of Construction Brick building. It has been
remodeled and enlarged, wings being
added on the side and in the rear.

Other Existing Records: Three drawings
Two photographs
One page of history

Additional Data:

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HABS No. 0-235

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On March 6, 1840, an Act of the General Assembly of the State of Ohio created Lake County from Townships of Concord, Painesville, Kirtland, LeRoy, Madison, Mentor and Perry, then a part of Granger County, and the Township of Willoughby, then a part of Cuyahoga.

Contained in the Act is the following: "The Seat of Justice for said county shall be and is hereby fixed at the town of Painesville, provided the whole expense of erecting public buildings shall be raised by voluntary subscription and no tax in any wise be levied for that purpose".

The citizens of Painesville and the new county raised the money to build the original New Court House, now known as the (Old Court House) and at present is being used as the City Hall of Painesville. The foundation for this building was laid sometime during the year 1840.

Plans were drawn by one George Mugate, Architect of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The building was erected by Harvey Woodworth and completed in the summer of 1852. The building has since been remodeled and enlarged, wings being added on one side and on the rear. The present portico is not the original. Original floor of first story was stone flagging, removed several years ago.

The old bell which formerly called citizens to the Court House remains in the original cupola and belfrey.

Historic American Buildings Survey
William A. Bohnard, District Officer
9815 Newton Ave., Cleveland, Ohio

WW 6/14/37